

Daily Bulletin – Day One

13th session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ageing (OEWG), 3rd April - 6th April 2023



Above: Margaret Young reads the GAROP joint statement

OEWG Programme Monday 3rd April

1. Opening Session

Includes the participation of NHRIs and NGOs in the work of the OEWG and adoption of the agenda

2. General Discussion

Opening statements from Member States, then NHRIs and NGOs, and a discussion of measures to enhance promotion and protection of the rights of older persons.

From Twitter

@UNandAgeing

“We had a great pre-OEWG workshop yesterday thanks to collaboration with @AARPIntl, @GAROP_Sec and all of our partner organizations in attendance. #OEWG13 has begun and we are ready to rally and #AgeWithRights.”

[Below: Theresa Flavin, advocate for the rights of persons with dementia]



Highlights

- The session opened with a message from the President of the UN General Assembly and the High Commissioner for Human Rights who reiterated support for a new convention. This was followed by statements from the G77+China, the Group of Friends of Older Persons in New York and the EU.
- The accreditation applications of 17 NGOs were then all approved by Member States. Congratulations to all newly accredited NGOs!
- Over 50 States took the floor although many statements lacked a strong human-rights focus and the tone of interventions was not urgent enough given the reality facing older people world-wide. It was positive to hear some Member States reiterate support for a UN convention and Portugal was openly supportive of a new international instrument for the first time in these sessions.
- In a number of powerful statements in the afternoon, National Human Rights Institutions and NGOs called for the drafting of a new UN convention to start without delay. In principle, NGOs and NHRIs were supportive for the draft decision from the informal cross-regional core group to accelerate progress in the OEWG, although there was clear disappointment at the lack of meaningful involvement of older people and civil society in the core group’s work in the recent intersessional session. We insisted on our full and meaningful participation going forward.

Get involved:

- Watch live online at: <http://webtv.un.org> (from 10:00 ET)
- UN website: <https://social.un.org/ageing-working-group>
- Get involved on Twitter using #AgeWithRights and #OEWG13

Get in touch:

- info@rightsofolderpeople.org
- [@GAROP_Sec](https://twitter.com/GAROP_Sec)
- www.rightsofolderpeople.org